

# Fort Leonard Wood ATC



Fort Leonard Wood, MO – The Marines here have been able to continue training with little interruption from injuries due to the Sports Medicine Injury Prevention (SMIP) program. The Marine Corps Detachment was authorized to hire two certified Athletic Trainers, commonly called ATCs. The ATCs have reduced the waiting time to see a physical therapist from over 2 weeks to immediate walk-in. The average number of appointments required to return a Marine to full duty have dropped significantly from 6-8 weeks to 1-3 weeks. Another significant reduction comes in the form of wait time to see a medical doctor. The ATCs have partnered with the local Army hospital and have an agreement with a licensed physician who has a sports medicine background. This physician has scheduled weekly appointments in the Marine Detachment ATC clinic. This alone has reduced the wait time needed to see an actual physician from 2 months to 1 week. Our SMIP program has allowed Marines to spend less time seeking medical treatment and spend more time training. The ATC's duty hours encompass the entire training day and they also offer alternate physical training routines that are effective and safe. They have become part of our Team! Thank you ATCs for your tireless efforts and dedication to duty!